

Claims

- [c1] What is claimed is:
- 1.A method for preventing repeat printing to a document by a printer, the printer comprising a sensor, the printer capable of receiving the document and printing data onto the document, the method comprising:
- receiving the document;
- determining if the document has a printing sign using the sensor;
- printing data onto the document with the printer when the document does not have the printing sign; and
- printing the printing sign onto the document with the printer when the document does not have the printing sign.
- [c2] 2.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer prints data onto the document inside a print area of the document, and the printer prints the printing sign onto the document outside the print area of the document.
- [c3] 3.The method of claim 1 wherein the printing sign is a sign inside a print area of the document.
- [c4] 4.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer further comprises an ink ribbon and a print head, and the print head heats ink in the ink ribbon to print onto the document.
- [c5] 5.The method of claim 4 wherein the printer further comprises a platen roller that presses the document against the print head.
- [c6] 6.The method of claim 4 wherein the print head is a thermal print head.
- [c7] 7.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer prints one color at a time.
- [c8] 8.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer further comprises a capstan roller and a pinch roller capable of driving the document forward and backward.
- [c9] 9.The method of claim 8 wherein the printer further comprises a motor that drives the capstan roller to rotate.
- [c10] 10.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer is a thermal transfer printer.

[c1 1] 11.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer is a thermal inkjet printer.

[c1 2] 12.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer is a dot matrix printer.

[c1 3] 13.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer is an inkjet printer.

[c1 4] 14.The method of claim 1 wherein the printer is an electrostatic printer.